

**Robert Stewart to Robert Dinwiddie, November 9, 1757,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM CAPTAIN STEWART TO GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

FORT LOUDOUN Nov 9th. 1757

HONBLE. SIR

(A Copy)

For upwards of three Months past Colo. Washington has labour'd under a Bloody Flux, about a week ago his Disorder greatly increas'd attended with bad Fevers the day before yesterday he was seiz'd with Stitches & violent Pleuretick Pains upon which the Doctr. Bled him and yesterday he twice repeated the same operation. This complication of Disorders greatly perplexes the Doctr. as what is good for him in one respect hurts him in another, the Doctr. has strongly recommended his immediately changing his air and going some place where he can be kept quiet (a thing impossible here) being the best chance that now remains for his Recovery, the Colo. objected to following this Advice before he could procure Yr. Hons. Liberty but the Doctr. gave him such reasons as convinc'd him it might then be too late and he has at length with reluctance agreed to it; therefore has Directed me to acquaint Yr. Honr. (as he is not in condition to write himself) of his resolution of leaving this immediately and of his reasons for doing it which I have now the honor to do—¹

Library of Congress

Yr. Hons. Letter of the 24th. Ult. (by Smith) did not reach the Colo. till the afternoon of the 6th. Inst. he has since sent a Copy of Yr. Contract with Mr. Ramsay to the Commandg. Officer of each Garrison in this and Hampshire Counties and issued the necessary Orders relative thereto —

There's no Deserters been brought to the Regiment by Constables or others for which the Colo. has not paid Rewards

In consequence of your Orders the Colo. has Commanded Captn. Waggoner to Form as strong a Party as he can by Detachments from the different Garrisons on the Branch to bring in the Duncards But he humbly conceives it would have been prudent to have confin'd the Duncard Docr. till the Return of this Party as it's more than probable that if he's disaffected to our Government which many violently suspect he and his Brothers will immediately move to Fort Duquesne, give the Commanding Officer there Intelligence of our Intentions and thereby enable him to Form some Plan for the Destruction of our Party But as the Colos. Orders were positive he did not choose to defer the Execution of them —

When I last had the honor of writing You I inform'd Yr. Honr. of my Intentions of applying to Lord Loudoun so soon as could hear of his Lordship's going into Winter Quarters I have since communicated my Intentions to Colo. Washington, who was Pleas'd to approve of it but exprest some Inclination to have Yr. Honrs. approbation of my leave of absence to Wait on his Lordship wherever He may be, this I flatter myself You will be Pleas'd to do which will much oblige & c

(Sign'd) ROBERT STEWART

1 Washington went to Mount Vernon, when his disorder settled into a slow fever that confined him several months, and reduced him so greatly in strength that he was not able to resume his command until April following.